

January 7, 2005

Victoria Ruston, Chief SEA Section  
Surface Transportation Board  
1925 K Street NW  
Washington, D.C. 20423-001

Received  
1/11/05

EI-1354

Re: Finance Document 34284  
Vulcan Materials/Southwest Gulf Railroad  
Medina County, Texas

Dear Ms. Ruston:

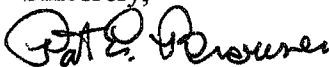
Ms. Ruston, I have been requested by the Medina County Environmental Action Committee to voice my concerns about the proposed routes being studied for the SGR rail lines. As the Medina County Floodplain Administrator, I am especially concerned about any development within the flood plain. However this is not my only concern. Even areas outside the mapped Floodplain can cause adverse effects if not developed with the overall drainage picture in mind.

Most of the County residents are very aware of flooding problems along the Cherry, Quihi, and Elm Creeks. We have had and will continue to have periods of high rainfall which will inundate areas along and adjacent to these creeks. We must not allow any development within these areas that would increase flooding. This is of up-most importance.

With this in mind I would ask that all information provided by both sides of the issue be diligently studied and used in the final determination of the route to be used by the SGR. While I have not physically traveled each of the routes I am familiar with approximate locations where the routes cross County and State roads and have a general idea of the routes. I have been given information by the MCEAC in the form of an USGS TOPO map and elevations which would indicate that another route used to build the Medina Lake Dam might be a better alternative than those submitted by SGR. I would ask that all information be given diligent consideration.

Thank you.

Sincerely,



Pat E. Brawner  
Medina County Floodplain Administrator CFM 0545-03

CC: The Honorable James E. Barden, Medina County Judge